The model according to claim 48 wherein the subsequent retrieval of objects corresponding to the physical location of the area query causes the retrieval of all objects associated with the physical location to be retrieved into an active memory that can be operated upon.

object

The model according to claim 59 wherein the retrieval of all object associated with the physical location is from a disk storage.

The model according to claim 48 wherein the model allows for the insertion of cutlines to frame a particular area of interest.

The model according to claim 48 wherein the area query cantake place either immediately after synthesis or during final placement and routing.

763. The model according to claim 48 wherein the model is configures to allow for a logical query to take place.

The model according to claim 63 wherein the logical query of one object provides at least another object that is logically related to the one object.

## REMARKS

This preliminary amendment cancels pending claims 1-21 and 23-47 without prejudice, and adds new claims 48-64.

An early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
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